1	2
16.	मैसर्स महेन्द्रा एंड कंपनी, राजनन्दगांव
17.	एंड मैसर्स सोनल ट्रैडर्स, रायपुर श्री सुरजीत सिंह चावला एंड अदर्स, रायपुर
18.	श्री बी०एन० दवे, जबलपुर
19.	श्री हिरजी भाई गला एंड अदर्स, जबलपुर
20.	मैसर्स लक्ष्मण भाई दया भाई पटेल, दुर्ग
21.	निको जयसवाल ग्रुप, भिलाई
22.	श्रीमंत सेठ ऋसव कुमार जैन, सागर
23.	मैसर्स बाल्मिको प्रसाद एंड संस, महेन्द्रगढ़
24.	मैसर्स घनश्यामदास पेरुमल , जबलपुर

Cheque Bounced and returned by Canara Bank

944. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proprietor of a firm amed 'Maharaja Transport Kareer' has sued a large number of cheques amounting to lakhs of rupees on the Canara Bank, Village and P.O. Bilga, District Jalandhar, which have bounced and returned by the bank to the parties cocerned;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard viz. name and address of the proprietor, the number, amount and the names of persons/parties to whom such cheques have been issued during the year 1993 and so far in 1994.

(c) whether the Proprietor of the said firm has cheated and played fraud with a large number of innocent persons by issuing such cheques;

(d) what action Government have taken in the matter to check such frauds; and

(e) what steps the Canara Bank, Bilga, has taken so far to inform the general public about the fraudulent issue of cheques by the proprietor of the above firm so as to save the innocent persons from falling into the trap of this fraudulent person and firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Canara Bank have reported that they do not have any account in the name and title 'Maharaja Transport Kareer' with their Bilga branch. However, the branch had received some cheques signed under the title 'Maharaja Transport Kareer' from a cheque book issued to M/s. Mann Dehradun Carriers Transport who are having a current account with the branch. The cheques were returned unpaid by the branch as they did not pertain to the account for which the cheque book had been issued.

In accordance with the statutes governing the nationalised banks and in keeping with the practices and usages customary amongst bankers, further details such as the number, amount and the names of the persons/parties to whom such cheques have been issued during the year 1993 and so far in 1994 may not be disclosed.

(c) Canara Bank have no information in this regard.

(d) and (e) Canara Bank have reported that they have taken necessary precautions at branch level to ensure that the bank is not defrauded.

Scrapping of promoters' quota by SEBI

945. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SEBI is planning to move scrapping of promoters' quota by the companies floating shares in the open market; and

(b) if so, whether the reaction of the trade and industry has been considered by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Identification of Backward areas for Income Tax concessions

946. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken to identify the backward areas for giving income tax concessions;

(b) which are the backward areas notified for five years income tax holidays to the new industrial units;

(c) whether Government have consulted the State Government to select the backward areas; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Government has set up a group headed by Shri M. K. Kaw and consisting of members representing the Ministry of Industry, the Planning Ministry and Department of Revenue. The group is examining the various issues for selecting the criteria for identifying backward districts. The report of the group is expected shortly.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, State Governments are being consulted. Letters have been addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all the States and the officers from the Ministry of Finance are meeting the officers in the State Governments in order to identify the areas and collect data.

Regional Rural Banks in Maharashtla

947. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) which are the places in Maharashtra where the Regional Rural Banks and their branches are situated;

(b) which of their branches are running in profit and which are in losses;

(c) which are the branches which are likely to be marged and the ones likely to be closed; and

(d) what is Government's policy in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) There are ten Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) operating in the State of Maharashtra having a network of 591 branches. A Statement giving details of districts covered, number of branches and loss incurred by each of the ten RRBs as at the end of 31-3-93 is annexed. (*See* below) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that branch-wise figure of losses/profits is not available.

(c) and (d) Instructions have been issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in December, 1993 permitting RRBs to relocate the loss making branches at places like Mandis, Taluk/district headquters, agriculture produce centres, etc. and to open extension counteres at premises of institutions for which the RRB is the principal banker. This is a continuous